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A RESOLUTION approving a Policy Framework for the  
Health of the Public.

..body

WHEREAS, the county is responsible for providing regional public health services to the 1.8 million residents in King County, as well as the hundreds of thousands of workers and tourists who enter the County each day, and

WHEREAS, examples of the wide range of public health services provided by the county include ensuring food and water are safe for consumption; monitoring, preventing, and controlling communicable diseases and environmental health threats; assessing the health of the public; providing vaccines and assuring the immunization of children and adults; assuring emergency preparedness and response; promoting healthy behaviors and preventing chronic diseases and injury; and assuring personal health care services to uninsured and underserved individuals, and

WHEREAS, regional public health services are supported by significant contributions from the county's general fund, state funds, and variety of federal sources, and

WHEREAS, over the past decade, revenues supporting public health services, such as the motor vehicle excise tax, have been eliminated, reduced or limited, requiring reductions in public health programs and significant increases in the level of county general fund resources, and

WHEREAS, the significant increases in county general fund resources to support public health are not sustainable over the long term, and;

WHEREAS, the cost of providing public health services is increasing, and

WHEREAS, the need for and scope of public health services provided is increasing as new mandates are instituted, new communicable disease and environmental health threats emerge, health disparities within the population of King County intensify, the number of medically underserved increases and the burden of preventable chronic disease grows, and

WHEREAS, in Ordinance 15083, the ordinance adopting the 2005 King County budget, the Council authorized funding for a Public Health Operational Master Plan ("PHOMP"), and

WHEREAS, a PHOMP will guide development of a sustainable operational and financing model for the provision of regional public health services, and

WHEREAS, the county through Motion 12122 approved the multi-year two-phased workplan for the PHOMP, and

WHEREAS, by Resolution the King County Board of Health approved the PHOMP workplan, and

WHEREAS, the PHOMP will be a two-year planning effort conducted in two phases. Phase I will establish broad policies on the provision of public health services in King County and Phase II will result in recommendations regarding operational implementation and funding, and

WHEREAS, the adopted workplan created a PHOMP Steering Committee including representatives from the Seattle-King County department of public health, the board of health, the council, and the office of the executive and

WHEREAS, in Phase I the Steering Committee, Board of Health and Council have reviewed background information and provided input on the role of a public health department and the health, policy, and funding environments in which the department of public health operates, and

WHEREAS, the adopted workplan requires input and feedback from a wide range of community health, funding, and service partners on the policy framework, and

WHEREAS, based on background information and a stakeholder survey, on September 8, 2006 the Steering Committee approved a draft policy framework for the health of the public, and

WHEREAS, the draft policy framework was publicly released and 581 stakeholder responses were received, and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2007, after substantial consideration, review, and revision based on stakeholder feedback, the PHOMP Steering Committee unanimously recommended a Policy Framework for the Health of the Public to the executive for his review and transmittal to the council and the board of health for their review and adoption, as required by the adopted work plan, and

WHEREAS, the executive has transmitted to the council with this motion and to the board of health by resolution, A Policy Framework for the Health of the Public;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the King County Board of Health:

A Policy Framework for the Health of the Public, the outcome of Phase I of the public health operational master plan, Attachment A to this resolution, is hereby approved.

Attachments: A. A Policy Framework for the Health of the Public